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Ammonotheca

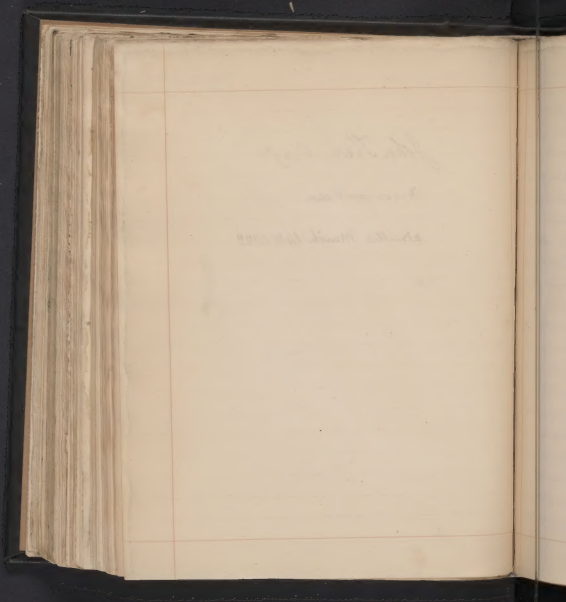
No. 12

1822

John Ker. Virg^a

Ammonotheca

admitted March 14th 1822



A

Thesis

On Amenorrhœa:

By John Ker. M.D.

Philadelphia, 1821.

Dec. 7. 14th 1821.

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From the etymology of the term *Menorrhoea*, we might restrict its use to a case, which seldom, if ever, occurs. The strict and literal meaning being a non recurrence of the menstrual flux, at precisely monthly periods, as is evident from a reference to its components, *a*, par, and *pro*.

But pathologists have used the term to signify a morbid affection, of which they have made three species viz. *Emenesis mensium*, *Suppression mensium*, and *Menorrhoea difficilis* or *disypnoorrhoea*.

The *Emenesis mensium* seems to be generally considered a symptomatic disease, and entertaining such views of its pathology we may readily find pathologic causes for its production. Fever, and indeed all constitutional diseases which cripple and exhaust the vital energies might be enumerated as its causes, together with a number of local affections, and organic defects, such as disease of the ovaria, the want of a uterus, an imperforate vagina &c.

Some have attributed a long catalogue of morbid symptoms to retention of the menses, though it appears to have been done without any good, or sufficient reason. The argument that is

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most confidently stated to prove, that those symptoms which have been multiplied to an almost unlimited number, have been occasioned by the retention of the catamenia, is, that they subside or are totally removed by the establishment of that secretion. The reality of the case however, is found on a more accurate investigation of the matter, to be widely discrepant from their views. They seem to have forgotten that it is necessary for the system to be in a certain state of healthfulness, and that all its parts must harmonise, in order for the uterus to carry on its proper healthy secretion, and that retention of this secretion might be enumerated amongst the remedies of the symptoms of a cachectic state of the whole, or at least of a part of the female economy.

It is impossible to say at what time the uterine system should part on this secretory action in any particular subject, since we are taught by physiologists that we two women have the discharge at precisely the same age. It is said by the Hæmorrhoidal writers that they frequently differ both in the period and quantity of their menstruation. From these circumstances may we not infer the possibility of their having differed with regard to the flowing of their menses in the first instance.

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Being satisfied that Enuresis mensuum is a symptom and not a disease it would be more appropriately treated if under the disease of which it is symptomatic; but as it is generally treated of as a disease we shall briefly mention some of the leading indications and modes of effecting them; in two states of the system which most frequently accompany the absence of the catamenia at the age at which they most usually occur.

It is evident from what has been said, that we are not to interfere in every case when the menses do not appear at the time, at which we might have expected their appearance. We may justly interfere when together with the absence of the discharge about the thirteenth or fourteenth year we find a sluggishness, and frequent sense of lassitude and debility, with various symptoms of dyspepsia; and sometimes with preternatural appetite. At the same time the face loses its rosy colour, becomes pale, and sometimes of a yellowish hue; the whole body becomes affected with oedematous swellings, the breathing is hurried by any quick or laborious motion of the body, and the heart is liable to palpitation and æqu岸 — A headach sometimes occurs; but more certainly pains of the back, loins, and

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remains the state of the system is sometimes manifested
with a rapid ascending yellow jaundice may be distin-
guished from that of the spleen although jaundice not being at-
tended to the same regularity in their excretions as in heat,
the patient finds no difficulty in lying on either side, the
urine is sometimes convulsed, and commonly comes on im-
mediately in the morning attended with excitation in the
morning, and slight expectoration of phlegm. It has also been
used to note the diagnosis between this state of the system and
that of a more advanced state distinguished by the absence of
the jaundice, yellow tinge of the conjunctiva of the sclera, the
urine, and of the color of the stools.

The progress in this disease will be governed by the
nature of the system and the nature of the system. It may be said
that the nature of the system is in no case the sole
cause of death. It must then follow that the cause be having
the system up to its proper position, and thereby sub-
verting the leading cause of the degeneration. It is in-
frequently in this case strong evidence, the nature of the gen-
eral system and consequently of the ultimate system.



Indeed calomel might be used if the last preparation
was, it will not only be serviceable by evacuating the stomach
of any noxious matters which might be lodged there, and clearing
it of viscid phlegm and mucus; but beneficial effects may be
anticipated from the agitation of the whole system, to pre-
vent vomiting the Blue-Road calli. It would probably answer
as well as any other substance, or its efficacy would probably
be increased by the addition of γ or γ grs of the Tart. Acetic. It perhaps
is superior to the former.

The next step is to spare the bowels and establish their
proper action, which is generally stopped and inefficient. For this
purpose we should then recur to the use of cathartics, none
of which seem to be more suitable than calomel in combi-
nation with some of the drastic vegetable cathartics, such as
Cascara, Rhubarb, Aloë, or the Pillsbury. The chronic rigors

Full purging will most probably be necessary at first,
and then the bowels must be kept in a soluble state by
small and repeated doses of, or combinations of some of the fore-
going medicines, or a combination of Myrrh and aloë which
is used by some practitioners a valuable stimulant and



1844. The first section of the morning program was a small group of 10-12 students in the schoolyard, followed by a group of 15-20 students in the classroom. The first section was a small group of 10-12 students in the schoolyard, followed by a group of 15-20 students in the classroom. The first section was a small group of 10-12 students in the schoolyard, followed by a group of 15-20 students in the classroom.

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The soil used for the experiments was a light sandy loam, containing 1% of organic matter, and was treated with various amounts of lime, by the addition of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834

I am, with a few lines, sending you a
 little of the present state of our relations.





[illegible]

I have been thinking of you very much lately, and
 wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are
 well and happy. I am still the same old
 fellow, but I am getting on better. I am
 still a little bit of a fellow, but I am
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 fellow, but I am getting on better. I am still a
 little bit of a fellow, but I am getting on better.







the system, even bed-ridden, pain in the sick room, increased
the heat, pulse in the inferior extremities, at first morose,
frequent costiveness and negative symptoms, sometimes delirium,
as in the numerous, and epidemic symptoms.

In consequence, with the practice, as a physician directed
not without reason by observation, as well as from the know-
ledge before this disease, not natural obstructions of the
extremities. But the symptoms themselves in the natu-
ral process of gestation are so essentially different from them
as have ascertained that it will be not impossible to
relieve them all in this case. It will be sufficient to
state that the symptoms of disease seldom terminate
irregularly with one course, while the distinctive symp-
toms, in pregnancy gradually abate until the 4th month,
when the motions cease to return, settled by the motions
of the foetus in utero.

There exists a patient affected in the manner
has it as signified would be to relieve the violence of the
symptoms and establish if possible all the healthy functions.
Purging and emetic measures must then be resorted to.





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The present use of dross in dose v. or x grs; 3j Tinct.
elle. big, & 9℔. Tincture. Cal. 19. gradually increase to 3j
or 5j in dec; are said to be amongst the most efficient
in direction of Senna made by adding a pint of bol-
us water to an ounce of the rathernak and brewed, and
letting it simmer over the fire till the quantity is redu-
ced one third, to which may be added an aromatic, to
prevent nausea, is very highly recommended by persons
eminently qualified to judge of the merits of the arti-
cle. The chief of the system is to be attended to in general
circumstances.

From five to ten grains of aloes with a grain of
saccharine every other night at bedtime will be a useful spe-
cific in many cases. The operation of these
is more directed into the use of the amount of a
dose, and causes rarely, or a, indigestion, pain, or the
constipation, which are produced as far as the Senna is all
used during the course. This will be a good reason to call
for a Senna, the Senna of Aloes and Convolvulus
the rathernak and Senna, which are also used and are.







We have nearly equal authority for the long continued
use of the Tinct. Guaiac. Ammoniac. and Tinct. clal. Vrs.
By an author of no little celebrity in the medical world, we are
told that small doses of Calomel every night at bed time, and
a dose of the Tinct. Cincho. Offic. Ammoniac. ter in die, is a very
efficient practice in dysmenorrhœia.

[Faint, illegible handwriting in a cursive script, likely from the 18th or 19th century. The text is arranged in several lines across the top half of the page.]

